

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

APR - 9 2004

OFFICIAL**In the United States Patent and Trademark Office**

Applicants: Dodge et al.
Serial No.: 10/022,329
Confirmation No: 4952
Filed: 12/14/2001
For: High capacity and high rate
absorbent composite.

Docket 16,184
TC/A.U.: 3761
Examiner: Michele M. Kidwell
Date: April 9, 2004

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Amendment After Final Rejection Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 and in response to the Office Action in which the Examiner finally rejected claims 1 - 22 and which was mailed on January 28, 2004, the following amendments and remarks are submitted for your consideration. These amendments and remarks are offered in order to either reduce or, at the least more clearly define, the differences between the Applicants' position and that of the Examiner.

Summary of Telephone Interview with Examiner Kidwell begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.